

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002.04000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Joseph C. CAUTHEN ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application. No.: Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC )  
ANNULUS STENT (As Amended) )  
 )  
 )  
 )  
 )  
 )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CHANGE**

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that Figs. 1, 3, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 9, 10A, 10B, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 12A and 12B in the above-captioned application be amended by adding reference numerals corresponding to features described in the specification. The proposed changes are indicated in red on the attached copy of the originally filed drawing.

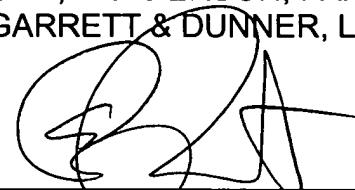
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Upon approval of the proposed changes, Applicant respectfully requests that the submission of formal revised drawings be deferred until after a notice of allowance has issued.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 

Eric P. Raciti  
Reg. No. 41,475

Dated: March 1, 2002

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